

REMARKS

By this Amendment, the applicant proposes amending claims 19, 22, and 25 to improve form, and canceling claims 20, 23, and 26 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, and 27 will be pending upon entry of this Amendment.

Initially, the applicant notes, with appreciation, the indication that claims 20, 23, and 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Benmohamed et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,795,399). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

While not concurring with the rejection, but to expedite prosecution, independent claims 19, 22, and 25, amended as proposed, are amended to incorporate features formerly recited claims 20, 23, and 26, which were indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Therefore, claims 19, 22, and 25, as amended, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claim 19, 22, and 25 are respectfully requested.

Claims 21, 24, and 27 are dependent on claims 19, 22, and 25, respectively, and are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons claims 19, 22, and 25 are allowable. Accordingly, allowance of claims 21, 24, and 27 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims. The applicant respectfully requests that the present amendment be entered because the present amendment places the application in immediate condition for allowance.

As the applicant's remarks with respect to the Examiner's rejections are sufficient to overcome these rejections, the applicant's silence as to certain assertions by the Examiner in the Office Action or certain requirements that may be applicable to such rejections (e.g., whether a reference constitutes prior art, motivation to combine references, etc.) is not a concession by the applicant that such assertions are accurate or such requirements have been met, and the applicant reserves the right to analyze and dispute these assertions/requirements in the future.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1070 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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